Students, staff race across finish line

Melissa Hanson  
Journal Staff

Contract negotiations expected for adjunct union

Melissa Hanson  
Journal Staff

University works for more ways to facilitate gender inclusivity

Katherine Yearwood  
Journal Staff

Donahue and Archer leave a legacy

Melissa Hanson  
Journal Staff

With the sale of Donahue and Archer, Suffolk will be closer to moving off of Beacon Hill.

Jonathan Acosta Ali Hassan/Journal Staff

Donahue and Archer house many of Suffolk's classes, clubs, and offices, and surround the C. Walsh Theatre. The buildings, which are connected through multiple hallways, were once the Law School, and the Archer building bears the name of Suffolk's founder.

Before the Boston Marathon, when Erickson, a Suffolk University Police Department systems administrator, saw the live video of two bombs exploding at the finish line, she decided to start training to run a marathon herself. Before this, the farthest I've run was 13 miles. It's been about pushing myself. I run every day, and I've run a marathon herself. It was time to start training to run the marathon itself. Erickson, a Suffolk University Senior Matthew Durkin visited the finish line on Boylston Street. He said running the 119th Boston Marathon 20 years after his father. Durkin said running the marathon has always been one of his goals. "My dad ran it 20 years ago, my aunt ran six times and my mom ran six times and..."

With the sale of Donahue and Archer, Suffolk will be closer to moving off of Beacon Hill. Photos clipped from newspapers show students and faculty walking down the street. Information on a $600,000 renovation project to the Donahue and Archer buildings can be read; at the time, the buildings weren't just home to Suffolk professors who are adjunct or part time, is working to renew their contract for the first time since their initial one in 2009, according to Robert Rosenfeld, a philosophy professor and president of SAF-AAUP. When Suffolk adjunct professors voted to unionize in 2006, it took years of negotiations for their contract to be renewed. Now, professors at Suffolk are working to renew their contract for the first time since their initial one in 2009, according to Robert Rosenfeld, a philosophy professor and president of SAF-AAUP. When Suffolk adjunct professors voted to unionize in 2006, it took years of negotiations for their contract to be renewed. Now, professors at Suffolk are working to renew their contract for the first time since their initial one in 2009, according to Robert Rosenfeld, a philosophy professor and president of SAF-AAUP.
Vicious anonymity tough to regulate on the Internet

Thalia Yunen
Journal Staff

A generic news story is up-loaded onto a website. You, as a user, read the story and then scroll down to the comments to see what others have to say. To your surprise, people are spewing hatred to each other and talking about their general thoughts on vitriolic Internet. Panelists discussed regulation of online comments. One audience member in particular asked if, with the progression of the Internet, people have gotten more vitriolic. Panelists generally agreed that it hasn’t gotten worse, but that it’s more prevalent just because of the number of people using the Internet. The power to make the Internet a more positive place lies with its users.

“Just being a woman brings gender-based attacks regardless of what you are speaking about,” said Sobieraj during the forum.

“Anonymity, as the Supreme Court has said, is a valid expression of the first amendment,” said Tuohey. He asked the panel what it was about anonymity that causes such negativity.

Tuohey responded by saying “people kind of have the idea that you can separate what you do online and what you do in real life. In real life we learn to moderate impulses because of social standards. That doesn’t happen online.”

Sobieraj added that although it’s becoming less and less socially acceptable, racial and sexist feelings haven’t disappeared, so those feelings come out online. All panelists agreed that, despite the nastiness of certain anonymous comments, the government should not have a role in regulating them. During the question and answer session, audience members’ questions primarily centered on accountability. How can we regulate vicious Internet comments? Will it get better or worse? Panelists did not have a clear answer.

One Suffolk spokesman did not respond to Tuohey, Sobieraj, Chu, and Gaffin discussed regulation of online comments.

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Students, PC, celebrate end of year with Urban Carnival

Brigitte Carreiro
Journal Staff

Runners reveal training methods, eating habits for Boston Marathon

from Marathon page 1

Students were flying high on the "jumpy," one of the main attractions of the carnival.

"It was really fun, there were a lot of people there. I got a free T-shirt and we got those flip-books," she said. Freshman Frances Santana said she saw more potential in how the event was laid out and to bounce and flip as high as they could.

Sophomore Andrea Zelano stopped by Ramly Reunion and said she was impressed by the turnout and availability of activities.

"It started with this idea gold-mine that I wanted to have an event outside and have a classic carnival," she said. "We eventually came to terms with the fact that parking lot was an awesome venue."

Happy with how the event turned out, Johansen said she was excited about everything she and her executive board had planned.

"My favorite part was probably picking out what we were going to do and watch it become a reality as we were fulfilling things," said Johansen. "As that happened, that was the sign that this was coming together and this was going to become a reality."

Although she deemed the carnival a success, Johansen said PC did run into obstacles when planning something this unique.

"The biggest hurdle was working with the city, because we had to get permitting," she said. "We had to experience with this so we just reached out to city hall basically blind."

Johansen said the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement, which works closely with PC, had previous relations with city hall and some knowledge of permitting for events like the Temple Street Fair, but with extra amenities such as food and electricity involved, the procedure became more complicated.

"It was definitely a process, but people at city hall worked to support us. I definitely value that," she said.

According to Johansen, the Urban Carnival was something that stood out to her and many others for its one-of-a-kind appeal.

"Seniors who are graduating were saying they had never had anything like that before, so much of a stressor as it was, it was definitely worth it," she said.
Suffolk offers gender neutral bathrooms, lacking in neutral housing in dorms

From THEY page 1

"We're seeing more and more students identifying as genderqueer and it's an area of growth for colleges and universities."

— Jesse Beal

say this is what makes you male or this is what makes you female," said Amy Kerr, president of Suffolk's LGBTQ+ group on campus.

Students are usually not comfortable in their rooms, but don't act too assertively. When people defy these stereotypes, it can sometimes lead to public shaming. "Anyone who doesn't identify with the binary system of male and female uses the term they," Kerr said.

Under campus life on Suffolk's website, there is a complete list of important terminology. For example, Suffolk defines genderqueer as an identity term for a person who may not identify with or express themselves within the gender binary. "Genderqueer is not the same, but (is) similar to transgender." Genderqueer students are usually not interested in transitioning from one binary gender to another, but, rather play in the gray. They often read as ambiguously gendered, although not always," said Jesse Beal, the assistant director of the Office of Diversity Services, who identifies as genderqueer.

"Students are often taught that 'they' is a plural word used when talking about more than one person, and using it for a singular person is grammatically incorrect. Many English and writing classes taught in schools in the United States do not take into account the people who identify as genderqueer or as non-binary." Suffolk's Office of Diversity Services has taken steps to educate the student body on this topic.

"A concern for genderqueer and trans students is professors, administrators, and other students not using their name and pronouns," said Beal. "There's usually a majority of people on this campus are very accepting, but the language and pronoun of chosen name are particularly salient for this group of students."

The Office of Diversity Services hosts safe zone trainings that focus on educating people on minority groups, such as genderqueer or non-binary individuals. Last week, they had their second Dragaoke show, and their Ram Academy on Multiculturalism and Social Justice teaches about genderqueer or non-binary individuals.

Freshman Brandon Monges is a student in this community who prefers the pronoun "they." "I stopped identifying as male my senior year of high school. Mostly, I didn't know much about gender and all that other good stuff (how complicated gender is) until then. I really wish high school gave out this type of information early on," Monges said.

Monges said they have not had to deal with anyone who is ignorant about gender identity on or off campus, but doesn't let their guard down because people can still surprise them. In 2006, Suffolk University became one of 911 colleges to implement nondiscrimination policies that include protection over gender identity and expression, according to Campuspride.org, an organization that works to make colleges and universities more inclusive to the LGBTQ community.

We're seeing more and more students identifying as genderqueer and it's an area of growth for colleges and universities. We've made a lot of steps forward in the past two years to make our campus affirming for genderqueer students," said Beal.

Although there are gender neutral bathrooms in each Suffolk building, there are no gender neutral rooms in dorms.

Monges said, "I would prefer gender neutral bathrooms in the res halls, but it doesn't make me uncomfortable not having them. I'm comfortable enough to do my makeup and dress more 'feminine' in a male bathroom. Fortunately, I haven't gotten any ignorant comments about this. It's kind of amusing when a guy sees me and thinks he walked into the wrong bathroom."

Not having gender neutral rooms could pose a potential problem, according to Beal. "When any space is segregated into two binary genders, often genderqueer people feel there isn't a safe place for them. With genderqueer students, there aren't enough gender neutral rooms. Genderqueer students are often fighting for the right to identify with the gender they are," said Beal. "Genderqueer students want a space that could be gender neutral or gender non-specific. The places that are really challenging are bathrooms, lockers rooms, and housing."

Right now, there is no housing space for genderqueer students in the dorms.

Because we don't have a gender neutral housing policy, genderqueer students have concerns around not having gender neutral options. This is about safety too, having access to safe housing and feeling comfortable in your room," said Beal.

A Suffolk spokesman did not respond to a request for comment regarding on-campus housing rights for genderqueer or transgender students.

The history of these buildings stored safely in the archives is nearly endless. It contains photos of Donahue and Archer being built, a photo of Frank J. Donahue signing paperwork for the building that bears his name, and more. Despite the history of these buildings, Suffolk is in the process of moving the university off Beacon Hill.

The move was announced in early February, and the real estate company Jones Lang LaSalle is selling the building. That company was also the one to sell Fenton last year.

Some of his greatest memories of Suffolk, he said, were interacting with faculty. "It was not uncommon for us to regularly go to parties and enjoy the knit campus community that was really unique. Now, Suffolk could close on sale of the buildings "relatively soon," according spokesman John Nucci.

"We've had a healthy number of potential bidders," Nucci said.

Beal, who graduated with a degree in government and history, remembers the tight-knit campus community that he shared one building that Suffolk was only in Archer.

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Africa resurfaced this year after being in the news for several weeks. According to Foreigners in the country are taking action by evacuating their citizens. It has been reported by authorities that seven foreigner camps in parts of the country are now living in refugee camps in parts of the country, according to BBC News. In an article by The Guardian, a Zimbabwean immigrant recounts how 15 men broke into her family home, beat her husband with sticks and robbed them of all they had. "The police came but did not do anything because they are afraid of those boys," she said. It appears that the police in South Africa are in support of the attacks, as they fail to stop the violence which is escalating. The South African government has proven ineffective in stopping the violence which has prompted me to believe the government has institutionalized the violence and the people in the government support xenophobia. This issue of violence toward immigrants was ignored until other Africans feel for was in vain because I was scared of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because I know where I end up, it is the same place I started. It has made me less fearful of the unknown, because
Global Business students visit Brazil for travel seminar

Alexa Gagosz
Journal Staff

For seven days in December, two professors and 15 students will take a trip to South America to immerse themselves in global businesses in Brazil.

The Global Travel Seminars were originally hosted by the Sawyer Business School dean's office but have recently been taken on by the Center for International Programs and Services and Hillary Sabbagh, the study abroad advisor.

Sabbagh and the center are currently planning a seminar trip to Brazil in December for the first time. Former trips were offered in May or during spring break.

Linked with a global business elective for both undergraduates and graduate students who have a travel requirement as they work toward their Global Business MBA, the trip is run by Associate Professor and Chair of Strategy of the International Business Department, Carlos Rufin.

Before embarking on their journey to Brazil, students will be required to take three pre-travel courses, which will help provide with a foundation of knowledge of the destination, and then a post-travel course where they complete their main project.

During their time in Brazil, they will connect classroom learning to real world experiences by meeting global business leaders, visit four to six businesses from small start-ups to multinational corporations, and, of course, the enjoy their time overseas in Brazil.

While visiting businesses, the professors have connections with, students will sit in on conferences and meetings as they network with global business leaders.

Bill Dolan, who double majored in Business and History with a concentration in Latin America and Spanish, is currently working toward his Juris Doctor degree in International Law at Suffolk Law School. For seven years in prison. He was charged with ordering the execution of several trials for numerous charges Morsi faces, according to BBC.

Egypt | Former president jailed

An Egyptian court has sentenced the ousted Egyptian President Mohammad Morsi to 20 years in prison. He was charged with ordering the execution of protesters during his rule, according to BBC. This was just the first of several trials for numerous charges Morsi faces. Since his overthrow by the military in 2013, authorities have arrested thousands of his supporters and banned his Muslim Brotherhood movement. Defendants were confined to a cage during the verdict and were not allowed to take part in the appeal.

Yemen | US sends aid

The U.S. sent an aircraft carrier to strengthen its presence in the waters off Yemen after Iranian naval convoy had intended their arms for Yemeni Houthi rebels, according to BBC. The U.S. has warned Iran against attacking the rebels, but a spokesman said to BBC that the ships will not stop the convoy. The Saudi-led coalition is backed by the U.S. by boosting arms deliveries and intelligence sharing, but the U.S. spokesperson said that the ships will not be a part of Saudi’s airstrikes. The U.S. said 150,000 people have been displaced and 12 million are short of food because of the fighting in Yemen, which lead them to the resolution last week suggesting an arms embargo on the rebels and their allies, according to CNN.

Germany | Former Nazi trial

Oskar Groening, a former Nazi Schutzstaffel guard, who was the bookkeeper of Auschwitz, admitted to being "morally guilty" at his trial on Tuesday in Lueneburg, Germany. Groening, 93, was sentenced to three to 15 years in prison. He was the only survivor of the many guards who had been present at Auschwitz. He said he was "morally guilty" at his trial on Tuesday in Lueneburg, Germany. Groening, 93, was sentenced to three to 15 years in prison. He was the only survivor of the many guards who had been present at Auschwitz.

Images taken by Bill Dolan in Brazil this past March while students were on city tours.
The Black Student Union hosted an "end of the year" celebration on Tuesday with food from SOULFiRE.

YOU’VE GOT ACADEMIC MOMENTUM.

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Seriously Bent, Suffolk’s improv and comedy troupe, hosted their annual end of year revue show titled “April Showers,” on Friday.

The show involved multiple sketches from spoiled children criticizing their late father over his grave, to a man complaining about not getting sexual favors from his wife on his birthday.

The ‘April Showers’ show is our end of year revue. We do a sketch and improv show once a year, typically in the first or second week of April,” said Seriously Bent co-captain and senior, John MacGregor.

One skit involved an ec­centric couple trying to get into heaven. They met a very pveeled Jesus Christ, played by captain Zachery Barker, in a white robe, at the gate. Almost instantly upon ar­ival, Jesus rejects them from Heaven. They proved to use their irritating voices to an­oy Jesus into convincing God to letting them in. Both Jesus and God agreed that heaven may not be their calling.

“I love Seriously Bent, we are really big fans. We go to every single dorm show. My favorite skit was the chip one. I was in the front row so the chips went on me,” said stu­dent John finishing on behalf of his friends.

Current Seriously Bent members and alumni at their Seriously Bent Takeover Show in February.

The audience definitely enjoyed watching the show, laughing and applauding for many of the sketches. Yet it was easy to see that the Seri­ously Bent performers enjoyed pleasing the crowd almost as much as the audience enjoyed watching them.

“I would’ve left Suffolk a long time ago if I not gotten on Seriously Bent. Once I joined the troupe, my focus 100 percent shifted to improv. I basically majored in improv comedy here,” said MacGregor.

Year, MacGregor worked alongside seniors Ste­phie Kay and Zachary Barker. Because all three captains are seniors, their absence next year will not only be felt on campus but also on stage perform­ing for Seriously Bent.

“It’s nice to move on, but I’ll miss everything about be­ing on Seriously Bent. I’ll miss the weekly shows, the bi-week­ly rehearsals. I’ll also miss the traveling to other schools to perform, the festivals and the tournaments. It’s all great,” said MacGregor.

For this event, all three cap­tains had to work together to organize the end of year revue.

“It was cool, but obviously challenging because there are three of us. We all have differ­ent opinions and we had a good time trying to figure out how to run the troupe as a team,” said MacGregor.

Next year Seriously Bent will be back on stage perform­ing with their new captain and junior, Tom Burke.

The latest installment in the “Fast and Furious” fran­chise picks up right where the previous film left off. Last time we saw the crew was in 2013 when they got letty back after she lost her memory and an in­jured Han toward the end.

According to BBC, “Furious 7” is the fastest film to make more than $1 billion in just 17 days, breaking box office re­cords. So grab the popcorn and tissues because it’s going to be a sentimental, emotional, bumpy ride.

From the action-packed scenes of racing cars to the sentimental moments of fam­i­ly, ex-convict, Dom, and his team are back on the street for another mission.

This time around Jason Statham’s character, Deckard Shaw, wants revenge on Dom, played by Vin Diesel, and his team for their attack on his brother, Owen Shaw, played by Luke Evans.

The movie took a confus­ing turn when the audience was introduced to a Somali terrorist named Jakarde, who seemed like he was randomly thrown into the movie for an unexpected twist.

Jakarde is after a computer program called “God’s Eye,” and the team gets caught in the middle of it all when they have to save a hacker named Ramsey while making sure Ja­karde doesn’t get his hands on the computer program.

It was exciting to see the entire team on the big screen once again. There were many romantic scenes that seemed corny at times between Dom and Letty, played by Michelle Rodriguez. Tyrese Gibson’s character, Roman, played the joker and filled the comedic moments of the movie.

It was heart wrenching ev­ery time the late Paul Walker came on screen. Many fans weren’t sure how the produc­tion of the movie would con­tinue after star Paul Walker, who plays the role of Brian O’Conner, died in a car crash in November 2013.

Because he was only pres­ent for half of the movie’s produc­tion, many followers of the franchise thought his char­acter would be killed off. But director James Wan did a brill­i­ant job stepping in while still respecting Walker’s performance.

Walker’s brothers Cody and Caleb Walker stepped in as doubles to play certain roles and other scenes were filmed using clips of him from the previous “Fast & Furious” movies along with computer­generated imagery.

When the movie was newly released, the most discussed aspect of it on social media was the heart breaking tribute to Walker at the end. Although it was difficult to distinguish between Walk­er, his brothers, or computer graphics throughout the move­ie, it was obvious in the ending scene that it wasn’t actu­ally Walker acting, but rather CGI effects.

News of his death had me sitting at the edge of my seat, wondering if every action scene would be Walker’s last.

As usual, the movie had high levels of unrealistic stunts that were on the verge of ridiculous, but on the same token that’s what makes the franchise so much fun and en­tertaining to watch.

Usually sequels in a fran­chise can get outdated and boring quickly, but “Furious 7” gives you a thrill and reaches new heights of raw intensity and emotion.

Although you don’t neces­sarily need to see the previous movies to understand the plot, it will make more sense to you if you are familiar with the characters and their stories. Regardless, “Furious 7” should be on everyone’s must-see list.
Suffolk students strut into spring

Jonathan Acosta
Abi Hassan
Journal Staff

After surviving the horrible winter, we found ourselves surrounded with beautiful weather once again. What does that mean to a city as cold as Boston? We are finally seeing knees and shoulders. People walking around have been changing the way they dress and leaving their homes without big parkas and jackets.

I have been personally impressed by how minimalistic this spring designs are. Big couture brands have showed their typical variations of flower prints with big colorful accessories.

One other trend that I have seen many students using is the famous “boyfriend shirt,” using plain t-shirt and covering that with a flannel shirt always work for those long days with classes and activities.

What is in? Kimonos, cardigans, and the new adaptation of the boyfriend shirts. Many of the Suffolk students have been walking around campus sporting lively prints. This is a new upcoming trend that will soon be combined with spring and summer clothing.

What’s not in? Maxi dresses, crop tops, and gladiator sandals. Last summer maxi dresses were the go-to thing every girl wants to have during the summer, even though they are comfortable, no major influence shows that this trend will come back. The sandals every American girl wanted it to have are not going to be a hit again this summer. Many fashion influencers have been using opposite to the very long gladiator style sandals, very short with high heel sandals instead.

Around the Suffolk community, I have seen major improvements on how students keep mixing comfort and fashion into their personal style.
Sketchual Misconduct says goodbye to seniors

Suffolk’s Modern Theater was filled with laughter for Sketchual Misconduct’s last show of the year, “The Sound of Pizza.” The show was funny and despite the bittersweet feeling that this would be the last show for the graduating seniors, the witty original sketches that have made the troupe a prominent group on campus were reinvented and renewed, resulting in a really fun night.

“I do feel that there has been a progression from the beginning of the year, creatively speaking,” said Paul Doran, a student who joined the group in the fall. 

The first half of the show consisted of sketches that varied in theme. The opening sketch, “Mixtape,” was written by freshman Kelly Roper. The sketch told the story of a rapper who was trying to tell his parents about his new CD release. The sketch hung on the rapper and his parents, keeping their parents about his new CD release. The sketch told the story of a rapper who was trying to tell his parents about his new CD release. The sketch hung on the rapper and his parents, who thought he was trying to come out as gay.

“We've come a long way from where we were in October and I think that shows through the quality of the work in this last show. Overall, this was the best show we've had all year, as far as quality of sketches,” said Doran.

The sketch continued to school, where the rapper answered a few extra credit questions about the sun correctly and kept celebrating rowdily and kept celebrating rowdily and kept celebrating rowdily. The teacher made the mistake of asking him what he was doing so the sun, chaos broke loose that elicted many laughs from the audience.

“The group is honestly rocking as well together right now,” said Dylan Amerena, artistic director of Sketchual Misconduct. “Coming to re-hearals feels like I'm with all my best friends generating laughs. We work so well together, even writing a sketch as a group,” he continued.

“I really enjoyed the opening sketch “Mixtape” because I thought the premise was very funny and I accidentally received my first stage kiss with Dylan Amerena, which was, and is still, very exciting,” said Doran.

Another great sketch was titled “Animal Jail,” and featured student Kanika Rajvi doing a voiceover of the famous Sarah Melachlan commercial for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Students portrayed criminals and murderers with an intriguing role of a cat suspected of killing FIP.

“Animal Jail came from a time when I was watching TV at home with my sister and we muted that horrifying commercial in order to make fun of it,” said Jed Kurtzman, who wrote the sketch.

One of the simplest but funniest sketches, “Kanye West,” was written by Dylan Amerena. The spotlight shone on an empty stage, while a voiceover said that, “all the people Kanye West likes that are not named Kanye West.”

Another sketch, “Makeup,” which was written together by the group and seemed to be another favorite of the evening. The sketch makes fun of how different a girl looks without her makeup by exchanging the main character with guys, and eventually with a pizza box, as she takes off her makeup.

The second half of the show was the roast of Alex Pappas, one of the founding members of the group, who is graduating in May. Pappas plans to stay Boston to expand his acting resume with stand-up comedy on deck for the summer.

The roast was hosted by Kurtzman, who is also graduating Suffolk this semester. "First and foremost, bloody marys and steaks," Kurtzman replied when asked what his next step after Suffolk intends to be. "I always make sure my mom has those ready to go whenever I fly home. Nutrition is key. However, after that my goals are just to keep doing comedy for as long as my potato body allows. I'm going to walk my dog, too. That's a step right?” said Kurtzman.

Though all the roasters were great, Suffolk student Bobby Zupkofska, who is not a member of Sketchual Misconduct, definitely stole the show. Even roastmaster Kurtzman admitted that Zupkofska's secret guest spot is going to be by far one of my favorite memories of being in this group.

"It really didn't settle in that it was my last show until the show ended," said Pappas. "As far as the roast goes, that was probably the more nerve-wracking part of the show. I had no idea what they were going to say, but at the end of it, I loved it," he said.

The roast of other Sketchual Misconduct members were really interesting as well, but the show had a stronger emphasis on seniors Kurtzman and Pappas, which gave the performance a bittersweet feeling when the curtain closed.

“Mother’s Day parade for fans of Make Way for Ducklings’

In celebration of Mother’s Day on May 10, Boston-area families, in association with the city’s Parks and Recreation Department and Mayor Martin J. Walsh, will weave their way through the Boston Common and Public Garden to honor a darling tradition, “Duckling Day.” Dressing like characters from the beloved children’s classic book, “Make Way for Ducklings,” by Robert McCloskey, the parade through Boston’s picturesque locations will begin at the Boston Common’s Parkman Bandstand and end in the Public Garden where the famous duckling sculptures stand. While mothers can enjoy a free mini-massage, their quacking kids can walk on a circus tightrope with Eds Circus Arts or play with the Knucklebones and their crew of lively employees and blow up obstacle courses. The Harvard Marching Band will lead the parade that begins at noon and families are welcome to bring a picnic and enjoy springtime on the Common with their family and friends.

Converse Rubber Tracks Live Boston announced that beginning on April 27, the organization will be sponsoring a five-day, multi-genre music festival. The event will be free of charge to lucky winners, at the Sinclair in Cambridge. The series, which is first of its kind for Converse, was organized to celebrate the opening of the company’s headquarters on Lovejoy Wharf. The multi-day event will feature artists Passion Pit, The Replacements, Chance the Rapper, Dinosaur Jr., and Slayer, as well as several other artists, all of whom have previously recorded at Converse’s Rubber Tracks Studio in Brooklyn, New York. Music fans and Converse enthusiasts alike can enter to win tickets by logging onto converse-music.com. All winners will be announced on Thursday, April 23.
Are we segregating students through classism?

Inadequate funding and lack of resources leave minority and low-income students at disadvantage.

Patricia Negrón
Journal Staff

"Low-income and minority students have to deal with enough difficult situations as it is without having to worry about the quality of their education. Making sure funding is distributed fairly so schools in poorer districts aren't marginalized is one way to level the playing field for all public school students."

Adjunct professors are preparing to terminate their contract and work with the university to create a new one.

This process can take months and can be difficult for the professors. They rely on contracts with the university for pay and health benefits, but often, the pay is not great, benefits are hard to obtain, and they can be let go between semesters at any time.

Adjunct professors are vital at Suffolk. They teach many courses in departments across campus. They devote time to students even when their pay is low and job security is unstable.

Suffolk should honor the time and devotion these professors put into this university. When constructing a new contract, adjunct professors should be given better job security. The amount of courses they must teach to obtain health benefits should be reduced. Though they say their pay is decent now, the university should honor the professors' commitment to students with a better salary in the next contract.

Without adjunct professors, the university would have fewer courses and the quality of education here would suffer.

Through financial conversations are never easy, Suffolk should devote the time and effort to discuss contract negotiations civilly with the adjunct union and offer them the best job package possible. While they may mail moving around funds to pay the professors at a higher rate, these professors deserve it.

There is also the possibility that with a better contract for adjuncts, more professors will be interested in teaching at Suffolk.

And there is the possibility that without a good contract, some of the university's best professors could leave.

Everyone benefits from a solid contract for adjunct professors. Hopefully the administration will see the advantages of this and construct a new, improved contract.
Maintenance workers should not lose their benefits

Thalia Yunen
Journal Staff

The university told its facilities employees two weeks ago that Suffolk is looking into outsourcing facilities and maintenance jobs to a private contractor. Around the same time, the university announced that it is going to give $1,000 after-tax bonuses to its employees. This doesn’t seem fair to me last week about how the workers are going to lose benefits for themselves and their families. The worker has been employed here for years. After receiving the statement sent by Meyer, this same maintenance worker told me that this past winter, obviously a particularly heavy one, maintenance workers were the ones here to clean everything up.

The statement also said, “Exploring a possible contracting agreement is part of a University-wide effort to be cost effective so that we can continue to provide access to students whose families are challenged with today’s costs of private higher education.”

On Wednesday, Suffolk employee received the statement from Andrew Meyer, chairman of the Board of Trustees, saying that the Board approved a $1,000 after-tax bonus for regular employees at Suffolk for their “exceptional work of the faculty, administration and staff over the past academic year” that will be awarded to employees this spring.

Meyer said, “On behalf of my colleagues on the Board, let me say thank you for your extraordinary commitment to this great University, and for all that you do on behalf of our students, alumni and the entire Suffolk community.”

A maintenance worker who has chosen to remain anonymous had a conversation with me last week about how the workers are going to lose benefits for themselves and their families. The worker has been employed here for years. After receiving the statement sent by Meyer, this same maintenance worker told me that this past winter, obviously a particularly heavy one, maintenance workers were the ones here to clean everything up.

The same employee thinks it is unfair that Suffolk wants to contract out its facilities operations and have current employees’ contracts renegotiated. The employee felt undervalued after working here for so long, and unsure of how the workers were going to support their families.

The maintenance workers are a part of a union and would not be able to receive the bonus anyway because they are paid under the terms of a contract. However, a letter is sent to all employees announcing a $1,000 bonus for their hard work, it seems unfair that maintenance workers are going to lose benefits.

Facilities employees and a representative of their union, Roxana Rivera (right corner) rallied in 73 Tremont last week to speak to university officials about their contracts, which end in June.

Race gap between official departments in Boston must change

Maria Baluch
Journal Staff

It comes as a surprise that Boston’s police and fire departments are “the least racially diverse major city agencies,” according to a report by the city’s Office of Diversity that analyzed municipal payroll data.

The analysis found that the police department is 66 percent white and the fire department is 72 percent white. The city’s workforce overall, which consists of 17,000 employees, is 58 percent white. This is not only because Boston is a major destination for international students to study. It also because the diverse population of permanent residents as well. Asians, African Americans, and Hispanics represent 33 percent of the city’s population, according to the Boston Globe. Diversity is important if we want to live in a world where we accept people from different backgrounds.

The analysis found that the (Boston) police department is 66 percent white and the fire department is 72 percent white. The city’s workforce overall, which consists of 17,000 employees, is 58 percent white.

Craig Martin/Journal Staff

“The analysis found that the (Boston) police department is 66 percent white and the fire department is 72 percent white. The city’s workforce overall, which consists of 17,000 employees, is 58 percent white.”

By RICK DAE THOMAS HARRIS

By RICK DAE THOMAS HARRIS

Marcel Baluchi's lawyer said Patel was “accused for his brown skin,” according to The Associated Press.

Police departments should also hire officers who speak languages other than English. Bilingual officers would not only be able to communicate with different groups of people, but also relate to them from a perspective of a cultural understanding. This could possibly help decrease the recent clashes between police officers and residents, like an incident in Alabama with Sureshbab Patel.

Patel, an Indian national who speaks very little English, was thrown to the ground by a police officer while visiting his son in Alabama in February, according to ABC News. He was reported as a suspicious person when he was seen walking around his son’s neighborhood. Dashcam video recorded the assault, which resulted in a neck injury that left Patel partially paralyzed. Patel’s lawyer
An open letter to group project slackers

Sam Humphrey
Journal Staff

Reading or hearing that phrase “group projects” enough to make my stomach turn over and wrinkle my brow. We’ve all had projects, so you would hope your peers would see the value in the project will likely be a drag and not diligently get it done. But too often, the bulk of the work falls on one or two people. I’ve been one of those people who had to do more than my fair share throughout college. So this weekend, I sat down — between working on four group projects, no less — to write what I want to tell students who have no issue dumping an impossible amount of work on their group members.

First and most importantly, these projects are an important part of our college experience. Students who take them seriously learn a lot. Studying the material by yourself is important, but it just as helpful to learn how your peers interpret the same information. When four or five people sit down to brainstorm how to present a topic in class, the list they create is more well-rounded and wide-ranging than one person jotting down their own ideas.

Second, our professors are also preparing us for our professional life, which — like it or not — will be filled with group projects. In the workplace, teams cannot rely on one person to pull a project together. Employees, like college students, bring different skills and gifts to the table, and pooling those talents together means a better solution to the problem at hand, and hopefully, a happier office (or classroom).

However, when the work falls on one person or a few members, the final result suffers. Group projects are designed to be more involved than regular assignments for a reason — the teacher expects several people to dedicate a good-faith effort to them. When one person shirks their portion of the work onto others, everyone else’s attention and efforts spread thin. The people who do more work wind up tired, cranky, and stressed. This not only affects the project, but their other assignments and responsibilities too.

The people who do more work wind up tired, cranky, and stressed. This not only affects the project, but their other assignments and responsibilities too.

After 14 years, US should pull troops out of Afghanistan

Ian Kea
Journal Staff

America’s longest war will drag on with President Barack Obama’s announcement that the number of troops in Afghanistan will remain the same through 2015, instead of decreasing by half as previously planned in 2014, according to CNN. Obama’s decision to not decrease the number of deployed troops is supposedly an attempt to bolster and support paramilitary and drone operations in Afghanistan and secure those areas until they can be put into action.

But after nearly a decade and half with soldiers on the ground, the U.S. should not need more time to set up drones and paramilitary operations. The U.S. government already has two bases operating out of the Kandahar Air Base in southern Afghanistan, and one base in Khost in the eastern part of the country, according to the U.S. State Department.

Fourteen years should be enough time to set up bases for drone and military operations and remove the troops, lower their supplies, but the U.S. is still trying to do simple things it should have accomplished in 2001. The plan to remove remaining troops should have been enacted even before 2014 as we had the time and bases able to support paramilitary and drone action.

According to Harvard Professor Linda J. Bilmes, the Iraq and Afghanistan wars have cost the U.S. between $4 trillion and $6 trillion. Our government’s current debt is nearly $18 trillion, almost one-third of which is from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to the Washington Post.

Not only have the missions in Iraq and Afghanistan become increasingly expensive, it also has a lost sense of hope because of the region’s history of military action.

In a nine-year war against the Mujahedeen Alliance in Afghanistan, the Soviet Union deployed 115,000 troops, compared to our highest level of troops in 2012 at approximately 101,000 according to CBS News. The Soviets found the terrain too difficult to control and failed to stabilize the country, ultimately ending the war in a stalemate. The U.S. has struggled to maintain a continued presence in the Hindu Kush Mountains, where groups like Al-Qaeda and the Taliban are stationed.

The Mujahedeen, who the U.S. financially supported, eventually broke because of internal tensions, which rose quickly and fiercely. The fragments of the Mujahedeen that separated brought about warlords, which left the control of what is now the Taliban. The U.S. essentially funded the same enemies we seek to defeat today, and we face the same fate as the Soviets in our attempt to stabilize Afghanistan. We can and should try to stabilize the region, but not risk troops on the ground. Instead, we need to do so with drones and other paramilitary operations.

In 2009, Obama promised a complete pullout of U.S. forces in Afghanistan by 2014, according to CNN. Yet here we are with almost 10,000 troops still deployed, making Afghanistan the longest U.S. war since Vietnam, according to the U.S. Defense Department.

The basic tasks that are currently being conducted, such as finalizing base positions and setting up drone strike centers, should have been completed long ago. Now, they are costing the U.S. tax dollars and endangering our soldiers’ lives. It’s time to bring our troops home now.

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The Suffolk Journal

April 22, 2015

Dear Suffolk Students,

We hope you are doing well in your final weeks of the spring semester!

As the semester comes to an end, the Student Government Association would like to thank all of our senators as well as our fellow students who have been working hard toward making our campus the best it can be. We wish all of our senior students good luck in their endeavors. We will miss you all!

In addition to our close of the spring semester, we would like to thank all student leaders for attending our annual LEAP Conference last weekend. We congratulate all the newly elected E-board members who will be leading their student organizations next year!

It has been a wonderful and successful year for SGA, and we want to thank and congratulate all the hard work and achievements that our members have accomplished this past year. We look forward to working with our elected senators and E-board members next year.

Our regular weekly meetings are held every Thursday at 1 p.m. in Donahue 311. We encourage all students to attend our meetings. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at sga@suffolk.edu.

Have a great week and a wonderful summer!

Student Government Association

Interested in joining The Suffolk Journal?

It's not too late!

We are always looking for writers, photographers, cartoonists, editors, and more.

suffolkjournal@gmail.com

FROm SGA

A WORD FROM
suffolk university

student government association
Celtics lose to Cavaliers 99-91

The Boston Celtics lost to the Cleveland Cavaliers 99-91, to fall behind in the series 2-0 in the first round of the NBA playoffs. Once again, point guard Isaiah Thomas led the way for the Celtics, dropping 22 points and dishing out seven assists. Center Tyler Zeller and guard Marcus Smart added 11 and 10 points, respectively. For the Cavaliers, Game 1's hero Kyrie Irving had another big game scoring 26 points, good enough for a plus-15 rating on the evening. LeBron James also had a big game, scoring 30 points of his own and adding seven helpers. Fifteen of James' 30 points came in the fourth quarter of play. Game three will be held on Thursday in Boston at 7 p.m.

UFC announces details on Reebok deal

It was originally rumored that the new deal between the UFC and Reebok would revolve around the promotion's official rankings, paying champions and those who were ranked higher than those who were unranked. It was announced by the UFC on Monday that instead of the aforementioned process, fighters would instead be paid based on tenure. Essentially, more fights equal more money. The payment levels are split into five tiers. Those with 1-5 fights receive the lowest pay, and then comes 6-10, 11-15, 16-20 and 21 or more fights, with higher pay for each tier. In addition to the tier system, champions and challengers will also receive significant compensation for their success. The system is meant to increase activity amongst the fighters, as well as longevity with the company. Starting in July, fighters will receive their payments in this fashion.

Running in the rain

Marathon a success despite bad weather

The dark skies above the city served as an unfitting backdrop to the ecstatic runners and fans of the Boston Marathon.

The day started out clear in the early morning hours to the afternoon. The elite runners finished the marathon before any rain fell. Caroline Rotich placed first among women, and Lelisa Desisa won in the men's group. Marcel Hug and Tatyana McFadden both finished first for the men's and women's wheelchair group respectively.

As noon passed, the finish line became darker and gloomier. The beautiful thing about the marathon is that there are always groups of runners crossing the finish line throughout the day, so the mood never changes. But the rain started to come down, and bystanders looked nervous for the ones they cheered for as well as uncomfortable themselves.

The onlookers only cheered loudly when they saw the ones they rooted for, but in their stationary moments, they stood there impatiently. One woman with a sign dedicated to her friend held the piece of cardboard close to her, hiding her face behind it so she would be shielded from the oncoming rain drops.

Once finished, runners and their families marched away from the finish line to the Boston Common. The runners sported their licensed Adidas Boston Marathon ponchos. Any photos and family hugs were taken at the finish line, but once runners reached the Common, everyone looked ready to check-out for the day.

Runners were given ponchos post-race. She appeared fired up about the day as a whole, looking out from under one of the many tents at different runners entering the area.

"I've had a bad streak lately," said Johnson. "I have run marathons in Columbus and Philadelphia this year. I ran cross-country in high school, so I am in different marathons and races all the time. Today was bad, I feel accomplished for finishing, but my time was not what I wanted at all." Johnson said she hopes to return to Boston next year and wants nicer weather. She dipped her head under the hood of her poncho and gingerly paced off with the rest of the herd of finished runners.

The Boston Marathon appears to have returned to the prestigious race where the headlines are about the runners. Every runner has their own story, and this year they all were given a unique one from Mother Nature.
If you were told that the price of a ticket to a Red Sox game was lower than the price of a meal from the 150 Tremont Café, how would you feel? Well, allow me to clear up any confusion, with the “Red Sox Student 9’s” program. High school and college students can purchase standing room only tickets to any home game for just $9. In other words, yes, it is cheaper than a meal at the 150 Tremont Café. The Red Sox are trying to increase the amount of high school and college students in attendance on a regular basis. One of the biggest factors deterring the students from coming out to Fenway is the ticket price. The Red Sox are one of the most popular American sports franchises, and the demand for tickets is high. In turn, the prices are lofty, which has deterred financially strapped students from attending games.

As of May 2014, the Red Sox are worth roughly $1.5 billion according to Forbes. However, it is estimated that any good business: there’s always room for improvement, which led the Red Sox to introduce the Student 9’s program. But even with the Student 9’s program in effect, the Red Sox are still pursuing ways to improve student attendance at Fenway. Enter the students. On Friday, the Red Sox hosted more than 20 students from 12 different colleges in Massachusetts to get their thoughts and opinions on what promotions and social media campaigns were most effective. The meeting was held in the Red Sox media room, and it was very casual. Students were treated to unlimited Fenway Franks, soft pretzels, Cracker Jacks, water and soft drinks. The discussion was light hearted and spontaneous.

The meeting was held in the Red Sox media room, and it was very casual. Students were treated to unlimited Fenway Franks, soft pretzels, Cracker Jacks, water and soft drinks. The discussion was light hearted and spontaneous.

To follow up the inquiry, the Red Sox and the NWHL have a plan to bring the ID’s to games with the idea of creating the “Red Sox Fan Card.” The card would be exclusively for students, and would link and act as an identification card. The idea: students come to Fenway, have their picture taken and put on one of the Red Sox IDs. Next, the students will bring the ID’s to games with them throughout the year, and each time, they will receive a stamp, hole punch or mark on their card to indicate their attendance. With a currently undetermined amount of stamps, hole punches or marks, the student will receive one game free.

Representing the Red Sox were members of their marketing team, who received insightful advice and reactions from the exact clientele that they are trying to reach. Among the many ideas pitched, the one that stood out the most was the “Red Sox Fan Card.” The card would be exclusively for students, and would link and act as an identification card. The idea: students come to Fenway, have their picture taken and put on one of the Red Sox IDs. Next, the students will bring the ID’s to games with them throughout the year, and each time, they will receive a stamp, hole punch or mark on their card to indicate their attendance. With a currently undetermined amount of stamps, hole punches or marks, the student will receive one game free.

With the idea, the Red Sox improve their attendance among students, while the students work their way towards a free game. The student’s reaction was almost unanimously in favor of the idea, seeing as both sides benefitting and the hassle of carrying the card being minimal.

Students at the discussion were given a tour of Fenway Park.

Following the tour, the students were then treated to a buffet in the 150 Tremont Café, which, according to the Yahoo sports blog Puck Daddy, comes to about $15,000 per player. This is small compared to other expenses. The NWHL has a salary cap of $270,000 other expenses. The NWHL has a salary cap of $270,000 to the league’s commissioner, Angela Ruggiero. This does mean competing with retired U.S. women’s hockey star, Angela Ruggiero. The league is a dual-entity, the NWHL, which handles all aspects of running the league, including league operations, and the other side is the NWHL Foundation, a charity with the intent of spreading women’s hockey through grassroots efforts, according to Puck Daddy.

Sox improve their attendance among students, while the students work their way towards a free game. The student’s reaction was almost unanimously in favor of the idea, seeing as both sides benefitting and the hassle of carrying the card being minimal.

After a good thirty minutes of the students and the Red Sox bouncing ideas off each other, the meeting concluded and the students were given a ticket to the game and taken down to the field to watch batting practice. The night concluded with a walk-off single by the Red Sox Xander Bogaerts, and both sides benefitting from a constructive conversation.

Sammy Hurwitz
Journal Staff

Adam Grossman (above/right), Senior Vice President/Marketing and Brand Development leader, and Brian Sullivan, (above/left) Director of Marketing, lead the discussion on the Student 9’s program.

National Women’s Hockey League brings pride to Boston

Abbey Wilson
Journal Staff

Boston is a city known for its sports teams and their passionate fans. Now, the city will get a new team to cheer for in a women’s hockey league.

It was recently announced a new women’s hockey league has been formed, the National Women’s Hockey League, and will include a team based in Boston. While there is already an existing women’s hockey league that also has a Boston team, the NWHL is different. They will be able to pay their players, something the Canadian Women’s Hockey League is currently unable to do.

The league will start off with four teams: The Boston Pride, the Buffalo Beauts, the New York Riveters, and the Connecticut Whale. The Buffalo Beauts.

“We will boost the best in women’s hockey for 18 games, once a week, from October to February, with two rounds of playoffs to finish the season,” according to a statement by the league’s office. “We are launching the league on April 33 and our games start in October. Players will be paid and have a say in the rules of the league.”

This is a great news for female hockey players, whose previous options were limited to the CWHL. Juniors and seniors in college are eligible to be registered and drafted. Any player who has already finished college and has not been drafted will become a free agent.

Suffolk University’s Associate Athletic Director Jaclyn Davis believes the more professional women’s sports league, the better.

“I think Boston is a great city to have any sports,” said Davis, also the softball coach. “There’s not great opportunity for women in professional sports. I think it is great that they’ll start that, especially for hockey, who does not have many collegiate women’s teams anyway.”

Each team will receive an operating budget for players and staff salaries, and with other expenses. The NWHL has a salary cap of $220,000, which, according to the Yahoo sports blog Puck Daddy, comes to about $15,000 per player. This is small compared to what even entry-level NHL players are paid, but it will be the equivalent of a part-time job, making it easier for international players to get work visas.

The league will also provide players with gear, according to the league’s commissioner Dani Rylan. Rylan, a Northeastern graduate, had originally attempted to get a CWHL team in New York, but instead ended up founding the NWHL along with retired U.S. women’s hockey star, Angela Ruggiero.

The league is a dual-entity, the NWHL, which handles all aspects of running the league, including league operations, and the other side is the NWHL Foundation, a charity with the intent of spreading women’s hockey through grassroots efforts, according to Puck Daddy.

“Does mean competing with the CWHL for viewers. Although, Rylan said she sees the two leagues co-existing.

The CWHL released a statement saying they are aware of the NWHL by saying, “First and foremost, is committed to growing women’s hockey in both Canada and the United States... it is taking all necessary steps and measures to protect its interests.”

There has been some backlash about the idea of the two leagues competing, but the business model of the NWHL makes more sense for the players, who deserve to be paid just like their male counterparts.
Softball set at No. 1 seed for conference playoffs

Jeremy Hayes
Journal Staff

The regular season is finished and the Lady Rams have secured the No. 1 seed for the GNAC playoffs. The team will play their final conference games, finishing the season with a 17-5 record with four non-conference games remaining.

Coach Jaclyn Davis wants the team properly prepared heading into the playoffs, even with non-conference games left on the schedule.

"We aren't trying to give it away, we want to win," said Davis, referring to the games Wednesday against Curry College. "I think the most important thing is this weekend. Curry is usually a good team to play, they are competitive. We just want to stay fresh up until then."

The Lady Rams will have to wait to see who their opponent is on Friday, since two teams have secured the No. 1 seed.

Coach Jaclyn Davis is confident moving forward into the playoffs.

"We go in with the same preparation," said Davis. "The girls have done a nice job this year playing for each other. Hitters help put runs across the board for our pitching staff and pitching has kept us in most of our games, so it has been the same approach."

The Lady Rams only recent struggle in April was against rival Emmanuel College, who are currently the No. 6 seed in the GNAC playoffs. Emmanuel swept the Lady Rams in doubleheader last Friday.

Despite the tough competition ahead, Davis is excited for the challenge the team faces in the playoffs.

"It's been wonderful," said Davis, expressing her feelings about her three seasons coaching the Lady Rams. "It's been a really enjoyable time. It's a little bit surreal to watch we've been through so much together in the last two and a half years, especially the upperclassmen, have been through so many changes with me. To have hidden this ride, it's very emotional, and I'm really proud of them and all the work they put in. I want this championship more for them than I do for myself. They deserve it."

The Lady Rams fell short in the 2014 playoffs, but with the No. 1 seed secured, their odds are better than previous seasons.

Friday's game will be played at American Legion Park in East Boston at 7 p.m.

Softball set at No. 1 seed for conference playoffs

Baseball looks to continue recent playoff success

 Sammy Hurwitz
Journal Staff

The Rams are three games away from completing their 2015 regular season, and after the first 29 contests, it's clear the team has regressed.

Their overall record of 14-16 is underwhelming, while their conference record of 9-5 is better, but still a far cry from last year's club. The 2014 Rams were conference champions and 12-2 in conference play with a 26-14-1 overall record, significantly better than this year's team. But with the playoffs approaching fast, the Rams still have a chance to make amends.

"Compared to the previous year, 9-5 is kind of a disappointment," said Rob Marks, an outfielder and three-year veteran of the baseball team. "We've lost some games we should've won. I'm confident in this team, though. When we need to step up."

Marks' comments can be backed up, too. The Rams had a huge two-game set against the GNAC rival, Saint Joseph's College of Maine Monks this weekend, splitting the doubleheader. The Rams dropped the first game in a painful fashion, surrendering three unearned runs and losing by a final score of 6-4. After being staked to a 3-0 lead, starting pitcher Josh Desai threw six innings, giving up 10 hits. He walked four and yielded six runs, three earned.

"We have a lot more talent than our record shows," said Marks, a sociology major. "We just have to stick to it. I'm pretty confident that our best baseball is ahead of us."

-Rob Marks, outfielder

The offense was not able to maintain their pace set in the top of the first, as they failed to score again until the fifth inning. The lack of offense accompanied by Desai's rough outing and the team's poor overall defense would eventually doom the Rams.

Not to be discouraged, the team quickly put the first game behind them, and came out in the second game determined. Freshman hurler Jake Flax got the start, falling one out short of a complete game while surrendering nine hits, four runs — two earned — and walking just one. The defense bounced back too, making just one error over seven innings. Marks and first baseman JC Collette provided most of the offense, driving in two runs apiece. The win pushed the Rams aforementioned conference record to 9-5, as the Monks fell to an overall 22-12.

"We have a lot more talent than our record shows," said Marks, a sociology major. "We just have to stick to it. I'm pretty confident that our best baseball is ahead of us."

On Tuesday, the Rams defeated the Albertus Magnus Falcons by a final score of 10-5. The win was the team's first of the GNAC playoffs, and third against the conference rival Falcons, a team they've outscored 21-11 in three games this season.

The Rams will conclude the regular season this week. On Tuesday, April 28, they will take on the Salve Regina Seahawks, followed by a non-conference matchup with the UMass Dartmouth Corsairs on Thursday, April 30 at 4 p.m. And finally, the Rams will play a doubleheader against Williams College Saturday at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.